



/N 09/449,204

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	DODGE ET AL.	Examiner:	FORMAN, B.
Serial No.:	09/449,204	Group Art Unit:	1634
Filed:	NOVEMBER 24, 1999	Docket No.:	11669.184USU1
Confirmation No.:	6001	Customer No.:	23552
Title:	PCR ASSAY		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 20, 2005.

By

Name: Lynda KraftCOMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commission for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 2, 4, 5, 8-14, 17-20 and 24-69 in Application Serial No. 09/449,204 by the Examiner with appreciation. The Applicant agrees with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that the claims of the present invention are patentable. The Applicant expressly traverses the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that any comment is intended or has the effect of limiting a claim scope, explicitly or implicitly, by not reciting verbatim the respective claim language, or is intended or has the effect of limiting a claim scope by stating or implying that all the reasons for patentability are in any way fully enumerated.

The Applicant further points out that the reasons for allowance set forth by the Examiner are not the only reasons that the claims 2, 4, 5, 8-14, 17-20 and 24-69 are allowable. Further reasons for allowance of the claims beyond those enumerated by the Examiner are described and set forth in the Applicant's specification.

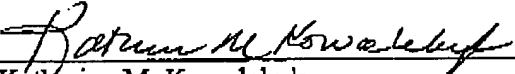
Finally, as the Examiner's reasons for allowance are not exhaustive, such reasons for allowance do not establish an estoppel against Applicant seeking and obtaining allowance of

additional, broader claims in a continuation application, which Applicant reserves the right to file.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: May 20, 2005


Katherine M. Kowalchuk
Reg. No. 36,848
KMK:sab

